

DRAFT QUALITY ASSURANCE SAMPLING PLAN ADDENDUM
FOR
PRIVATE DOMESTIC DRINKING WATER WELLS
HURRICANE HARVEY RESPONSE SUPPORT
IMPACTED AREAS ALONG THE TEXAS AND LOUISIANA
GULF COAST

Prepared for

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6

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Contract No. EP-S5-17-02

Technical Direction Document No. TBD

WESTON Work Order No. TBD

NRC No. N/A

SEMS ID N/A

FPN No. N/A

SSID: TBD

EPA OSC TBD

START-4 PTL TBD

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September 2017

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1. INTRODUCTION

EPA Region 6 has prepared this Quality Assurance Sampling Plan (QASP) Addendum to describe the technical scope of work regarding sampling of private domestic drinking water wells affected by flooding associated with the Hurricane Harvey landfall.

1.1 PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The objective of sampling private domestic drinking water wells is to provide total coliform analysis, to evaluate the private domestic drinking water wells which were inundated by the Hurricane Harvey flooding for bacterial contamination which is indicative of non-potable water.

The objective will be achieved by evaluating well water samples collected by residents from impacted wells, from areas in south Texas where flood waters from Hurricane Harvey have receded. Received samples will be analyzed for total coliforms. A total coliforms analysis will be performed using EPA Method 1604 or other approved EPA method.

3. SAMPLING APPROACH AND PROCEDURES

Samples collected by EPA Region 6 will be used to evaluate the presence or absence of the target contaminant.

3.1 SAMPLING

For the screening level analyses, impacted residential drinking water wells must be disinfected and flushed/purged as described by Texas Department of Health procedures (attached). Before disinfecting the well, the resident will receive a sampling kit from EPA and follow the included instructions. For the analyses, the samples do not have to follow rigorous chain of custody documentation until the samples are received by an EPA or EPA representative, at which point, standard chain of custody procedures must be followed.

3.2 PROCEDURES

ESF-8 IC will evaluate the results to determine whether the sampled well is impacted. To facilitate evaluation of the sampled drinking water biological result, an absence of total coliform indicates that the well is not impacted by bacteria. Any presence of total coliform will trigger a recommendation to assess and evaluate the well which may be coordinated with stakeholders, Texas agencies, and Federal partners. Results will be provided to the home owner/resident delivering the sample contingent upon the resident sharing contact information.